

7. Carlyle (A. G.) 185

OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT

AND

DISCIPLINE

OF HIS

MAJESTY

THE

KING OF PRUSSIA;

WITH AN ACCOUNT

OF THE PRIVATE LIFE OF THAT

CELEBRATED MONARCH;

And occasional Anecdotes of the principal Persons of his Court;
interspersed with Descriptions of Berlin, Potsdam, Sans Souci,
Charlottenbourg, &c.

Jacques Antoine Hippolyte, comte de Guibert
TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH:

John
BY J. JOHNSON, M.A.

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M,DCC,LXXX.

*my good Book: by G
-best- or whom?*

*By Guibert (B
1777).*

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P R E F A C E.

THE first Edition of this little Work, was published at Leipzig in 1778, and some few detached passages of it inserted in the Westminster Magazine for June 1778. Several persons who were pleased with those specimens of the Performance, expressed their desire to see the whole of it in an English dress. The Author, who is now well known to be an officer of distinction in the French service, spent a considerable time in Prussia, where he had an opportunity of making himself well acquainted with the different subjects he has treated. It must, indeed, be allowed that what he has written is extremely instructive and amusing. His work, which has been highly spoken

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spoken of in different foreign journals, has gone through several impressions, having been reprinted at Amsterdam and other places. The present Translation is from the last edition of it printed in Switzerland, in 1779.

OBSER-

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ON THE
MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT, AND
DISCIPLINE
OF HIS MAJESTY
THE KING OF PRUSSIA; &c.

DURING the reign of Frederick William, surnamed the *Great Elector*, the House of Brandenburg began to make a distinguished figure in Europe. His son Frederick, the first king of Prussia, seemed to be more desirous of supporting the pomp of royalty, than of cultivating the true means of increasing the splendor of his house. Frederick-William II. his successor, advanced with gigantic steps in the road his grandfather, the Great Elector, had marked out for him. He formed a military system till then unknown in Europe; he established that discipline which every other power has been striving to imitate, and that mechanism, if we may so call it,
A by

by which every part of it is so firmly connected. The judicious discernment of this prince made him sensible that the power of the House of Brandenburg would for a long time be precarious; and that a numerous and well disciplined army could alone constitute its basis and support. His politics, therefore, were founded wholly on strength, and his government became altogether military.

FREDERICK II. the reigning King, entered, like a truly great man into the views of his predecessors. He was no sooner seated on the throne, than he made considerable additions to his military establishment; and we have since seen him gradually increasing it, till it is become equal to that of the most formidable powers. As to his tactics and discipline, they are nearly the same as those of his father Frederick-William, whose general maxims of government he has likewise adopted. He well knows that in civil as well as military matters, there is nothing so dangerous as great changes, especially when a state is surrounded, and likely to be attacked, by jealous and powerful neighbours.

FROM the beginning of his reign, therefore, he has contented himself with perfecting what he found established. He has been at infinite pains to render his forces superior to those of his enemies,
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not only by the number and appearance of his troops, but by the order and discipline he has taken care to establish among them. Frequent exercises, and the continual pains that have been bestowed on them, under the King's immediate inspection, have brought the Prussian troops to the highest degree of perfection their tactics can possibly allow them to arrive at.

THE King of Prussia's military strength is without doubt considerable, but this is perhaps not so much owing to the intrinsic bravery of his troops, as to the excellence of their discipline, the ease with which they are brought together, the sagacious arrangements by which they are enabled to take the field, at a time when they are the least expected; and lastly, the economy that has prevailed in the management of the finances ever since the first establishment of the Prussian monarchy.

I SHALL endeavour to investigate the means this Prince has employed to elevate his power to a pitch that must far exceed the idea its founders could possibly conceive of it; but before I say any thing of his troops, and of the establishments that more immediately concern them, I think it necessary to give a sketch of the private life of this monarch, and of his daily occupations, that the reader may be the better enabled to form an idea of the genius

of a sovereign who has so extended the power of Prussia, and who has given to this power a degree of firmness proportioned to its magnitude. This sketch will serve to shew how much the talents, and the assiduous attention of a sovereign may contribute to the greatness of an empire.

FREDERICK, who is confessedly one of the greatest men that ever filled a throne, may be truly said to govern by himself, and without ministers, for the persons to whom he gives this title can only be said to copy the orders he delivers to them. It is he who regulates and gives directions on every subject that relates either to political or military affairs, to finances, legislation, or commerce. He himself is the general and the inspector of his troops. Considered as a great soldier, a statesman, a man of letters, a philosopher, a poet, this Prince must certainly be allowed to possess all the qualities that lead to fame and power. He is bold in his projects; and his success in these may be attributed to the sagacity with which they are planned, and the dexterity with which they are executed. In the field, he is distinguished for his superior skill in the choice of his posts, as well as in the disposal of his army for battle. His personal courage is great, and when it is necessary, he charges at the head of his troops. Adored by his soldiers, feared by
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his officers, and, what is one of his greatest advantages, sure of the discipline and regularity of his troops, he knows how to avail himself of the quickness of their manœuvres, to hazard sudden and unexpected movements, in which he is generally successful; on the other hand it must be acknowledged, that in sieges, whether it be in the attack or the defence of a place, his abilities are but moderate. The offensive is that part of the art of war which is the most analogous to his military genius.

His Majesty speaks almost all the modern languages; in an easy and graceful manner. He is likewise well versed in most of the sciences, and appears to be perfectly divested of prejudices, appreciating a man by what he is, and not by what he believes, believing himself little or nothing. Though naturally parsimonious, he is occasionally magnificent, rewarding liberally, though rarely, and possessing the happy talent of attaching persons to his service, rather by keeping them in expectation, than by lavishing favours on them. As to the King's person, we may remark, that he is rather below the middle size, but well made, and of a strong and healthy constitution, having been accustomed from his tenderest years to hard labour both of body and mind. He stoops much, yet there
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is a striking dignity in his appearance; and although he is short-sighted, his fine blue eyes are full of vivacity and fire. He is usually dressed in a plain suit of regimentals, and in boots. His uniform consists of a blue coat faced with red, and a yellow waistcoat and breeches. As he is a great economist in dress, his cloaths are commonly old and shabby, and he wears no other mark of distinction than the order of the Black Eagle. He is by no means nice about his boots, and he does not often allow himself a new pair, so that in general they are rather of a dirty brown than of a black colour. Now and then, though very rarely, on grand festivals, he appears in an embroidered suit of blue velvet; this with one, or at the most, two suits of regimentals, constitutes the whole of his wardrobe. His hair is always curled, and carelessly twisted into a single buckle at the sides. He takes a great deal of Spanish snuff, and makes use of a large and very rich snuff-box. I never saw a person make a more military appearance than this Prince does on horseback, and it is easy, even through the negligence of his apparel, to distinguish the warrior.

NOTHING can be more uniform than his private life. He constantly rises at four o'clock in the summer, and at five in winter, and spends only two minutes at his toilet.

toilet. He sleeps without a cap, and has no slippers or night gown, but puts on his boots at his bed-side, after which one of his footmen combs his hair and shaves him. The adjutant of the first battalion of guards then brings him a written list of all the persons that are arrived at, or gone from Potsdam, and of every thing that has occurred in that garrison. The King after delivering his orders to this officer, retires into an inner cabinet, where he employs himself in private till seven o'clock; when he passes into another apartment to drink chocolate. Here he finds upon the table all the letters addressed to him from Potsdam, Berlin, and the other parts of his dominions; foreign letters are placed upon a separate table. After reading all these letters, he writes hints or notes in the margin of those which his secretaries are to answer, and then returning into the inner cabinet, carries with him such as he means to write or dictate an answer to himself, and here he employs himself till nine o'clock with one of his private secretaries; he then goes back into the former apartment, where he finds three secretaries, each of whom gives his Majesty an account of what he has done, after which the King delivers his orders to them, with the letters they are to answer. None of these answers, however,
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are sent off till they have been read and signed by the King. At ten o'clock, the generals who are about his person (and he calls for all of them in their turn) attend him in his closet, where his Majesty converses with them on the news of the day, politics, tactics, &c. and gives audience to such persons as have had previous notice to attend.

At eleven o'clock he gets on horseback, and three days in the week rides to the parade, where he sees the guard relieved; on these occasions he gives the word of command, and stays till the troops have filed off. In the summer months, several regiments march twice a-week to a little distance from Potsdam, and the King attends and exercises them in person, for the space of an hour at the most, and sometimes not so long; for in Prussia the soldier is taught no manœuvres but such as he is to practise in battle. On the other days of the week, when he is not employed with his troops, the King is to be seen riding through the streets of Potsdam, attended only by a single page and an aide-camp. In this manner he visits the buildings that are erecting by his order, and sees that every thing is properly conducted. In fine weather it is no unusual thing for him to make these visits on foot. After this he returns to Sans Souci, where
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he finds his generals, and the rest of the company he has invited to his table. If the weather is favourable, he walks in the garden with these gentlemen till one o'clock : in bad weather their walk is confined to the great gallery. After this walk he retires for a quarter of an hour to his cabinet, and then returns to his company, and places himself at table. The dinner consists of eight dishes only, exclusive of the soup and *bouilli*, and only one dish is served up at a time. His Majesty has no carver, but does the honours of the table himself, like a private gentleman. Of the eight dishes, four are in the French, and two in the Italian taste ; the other two are suited to the King's particular palate. They are all of them succulent, and extremely well cooked, each dish being dressed by a distinct cook, who has a kitchen to himself, and a scullion to assist him, so that the King's table, though far from being sumptuous, is very expensive. The desert consists of three glasses of dried sweetmeats, some plates of creams, *bleaumange*, and the like ; and six of different sorts of fruit, which are always the choicest and most delicious that can be procured, the King being a great epicure with regard to fruit, so that he has it sent him from different parts of Europe, although his own gardens

and hot houses produce him excellent fruit all the year round.

His Majesty eats heartily, and a good while; he drinks a bottle of Burgundy, a few glasses of Champagne, and now and then, though rarely, a little cordial after the French manner. He continues at table till half past three, and converses very good humouredly with his company during the desert. None but generals, colonels, and a few other persons, suited to the King's taste, are admitted to these private parties. Strangers never dine with the King but when there is a court, which does not often happen, and indeed never at Sans Souci, which is his Majesty's ordinary residence.

When the King rises from table, he withdraws into another apartment, where coffee is served up, and where he finds the persons he has previously ordered to attend him, for nobody comes to Sans Souci without his order, not even his ministers. As for the foreign ministers, they are obliged to apply to the King by letter whenever they are desirous of an audience, and so is every other person who wishes to speak to him; when his Majesty is disposed to see them, he answers their letter, and names the day and the minute they are to attend. When no answer is sent, it is equivalent to a refusal.

At five o'clock, every body is dismissed,
and

and the King retires to his closet, where he finds his private secretaries, who are ready with the answers to the letters he had delivered to them in the morning. He reads and very often corrects these answers with his pen, after which he signs them, and at six o'clock precisely they are sealed and dispatched; so that any one who writes to his Majesty, and takes care to send his letter to the proper office, is sure of receiving an answer the day following.

At six o'clock the business of the day is over, and the King goes into the music apartment, where there is a concert, in which his Majesty is often a performer upon the flute. The King gives orders what pieces shall be played, and in general no person is admitted to this concert, except the general officers who have apartments at Sans Souci. The concert ends at seven o'clock, after which, in summer time, and in fine weather, the King takes a walk in his gardens till eight o'clock, when he wishes his generals a good-night, and retires. His Majesty never hunts, nor does he ever amuse himself at play. In winter, instead of walking after the concert, one of his pages reads some new work to him, and very often before the reader has got through the second page, the King takes the book out of his hand, and reads

out himself aloud for half an hour, after which he retires to his bed-chamber, where he finds Colonel Quintus *, with whom he converses in a familiar manner ; one of his cooks (for he has no clerk of the kitchen at Sans Souci) then brings him a bill of fare for the next day's dinner, with the price of each dish marked in the margin. The King strikes out what he does not like, and orders something else in its stead, exclaiming at the same time against the roguery of his domestics, but after all leaves the prices as he finds them ; at the same time he receives the account of his stables, and of the expences of his household, kitchen, &c. He puts them all by in order, and settles them once a month, when he makes no little noise if they happen to be more than usual ; but notwithstanding all this disturbance (as I have just now remarked) he makes no deduction, but pays the whole of the bills.

As soon as these domestic matters are settled, his Majesty undresses himself, gets into bed, and continues to joke with Quintus till he drops asleep ; the Colonel then

* This officer is lately dead. The King was far from being munificent to him during his lifetime, but after his death his Majesty sent the Colonel's widow six thousand crowns, granted her a pension of four hundred crowns, and gave her twelve thousand crowns for her husband's library, which was said to be much more than it was really worth.

walks gently out of the room on tip-toe, shuts the door after him, and returns to Potsdam. Every day is passed in the same manner. The King has no guard at Sans Souci; only at six in the evening four men are sent from Potsdam, with a corporal, who places a centinel at the door of the palace. This guard returns to Potsdam at four in the morning.

His Majesty has never any of the great officers of the crown near his person; nor any chamberlain, master of the household, &c. Two pages, two equerries, four under equerries, four footmen, an *hey-duc*, (who is a person of trust,) and two hussars of the bed-chamber, compose the whole of his household. When the King travels on horseback, his whole suite consists of a page, an equerry, and a groom, with a led horse. This Monarch has neither coach nor carriage at Sans Souci, and never gets into a carriage, except in long journies*.

WHEN he visits Berlin, Spandau, Brandenburg, or even Magdeburg, his Majesty is always on horseback, and with no

* In the speech his Prussian Majesty made to his generals, just before his last journey into Silesia, he pleaded his advanced age, as an excuse for his making use of a carriage. "I cannot," said he, "Gentlemen, travel as I used to do, but on the day of battle you shall see me on horseback, and I expect that you will all follow my example." T.

other suite than what I have mentioned, excepting the aid-de-camps, who accompany him when he reviews his troops.

His Prussian Majesty sees all his troops twice a-year. They are collected into a corps in each province. The King passes them in review, and sees them manœuvre.

THE reviews at Berlin are the most brilliant of any. Besides the garrison, which consists of five-and-twenty or thirty thousand men, his Majesty orders thither the garrison of Spandau, together with several regiments of cavalry, dragoons, and hussars, so as to compose all together a body of about sixty thousand men. The reviews and general exercises continue ten or twelve days, and the scene of this military exhibition is a plain near Charlottenbourg, one of the King's palaces situated at the distance of a mile from Berlin, at the end of the Great Park. During these reviews his Majesty usually resides at Charlottenbourg. There are likewise great manœuvres in Prussia in the month of June, in Silesia in the month of August, and at Potsdam about the end of September. These last are the most considerable, as they exhibit all the grand manœuvres of war. No person can be present at these reviews without the King's permission, which is not easily procured

red at Potsdam, whereas at any of the other places he seldom refuses it.

To this general picture of the manner in which this Prince spends his time, it may not be improper to add some few anecdotes that are perfectly characteristic of his disposition. The circumstance that does him the greatest honour, is his never having put any person to death, not even those who have attempted his life. During the course of the last war, while he was in Silesia, his valet de chambre was prevailed on to give him poison. The King, who is an excellent physiognomist perceiving one morning that his servant trembled as he was giving him his chocolate, immediately said to him, looking at him with great steadfastness at the same time, "*Je suis certain que tu es payé pour m'empoisonner.*" "I am certain you have been bribed to poison me." The man denied it, but the King gave the chocolate to a dog, and the animal died two hours afterwards. His Majesty contented himself with getting from the fellow the manner in which he had been bribed, and by whom, after which, without mentioning the affair to any one at the time, he sent him to Spandau*, from whence he was released a few years ago.

THE BARON VON ^{Warkotsch} _____, a Silesian nobleman, who had contrived to gain the King's

* This is the fortress in which state prisoners are confined. T.

confidence, laid a plan, during the last war, to deliver his Majesty into the hands of the Austrians. The Baron informed them that the King rode out every day to reconnoitre, attended only by three or four persons on horseback, and he appointed with the Austrian general a day and hour for carrying him off. This nobleman had chosen for his accomplice in this scheme, the curate of the village in which the King resided. The curate used to carry the letters to the Austrian posts. One day just as the King was getting on horseback, one of the Baron's servants came and threw himself at his Majesty's feet, presenting him at the same time with a letter, which his master had ordered him to deliver to the curate : Sire, said he, *I believe this letter concerns your Majesty.* The King opened the letter, and perceiving in it the clearest indications of the conspiracy, he immediately sent to reconnoitre if there was really an ambuscade at the place mentioned, and the moment he was convinced of the fact, he dispatched an officer at the head of a detachment of cavalry, with orders to arrest the Baron, who, under a pretence of business was gone to sleep at one of his seats, two miles from the King's quarters.

The officer, who knew nothing of the King's motives for issuing this order, delivered it with much politeness to the Baron, who

who received it with great seeming tranquillity and good-humour, breakfasted with the officer, and, in short, acted his part with so much dexterity and ease, that the latter suffered him to retire for a moment to another apartment, which facilitated his escape, as there was a window open, and a horse ready to receive him; so that he was at a considerable distance before the officer knew of his flight. It was then impossible to overtake him. When the King was informed by the officer of his ill success, his Majesty did no more than say to him with great coolness: "Get back to your regiment—You are a very awkward fellow, and I shall certainly never employ you again in such a commission."

THE King's ordinary residence is at Sans Souci seven or eight months of the year; he spends the whole of November, and two thirds of December at Potsdam, and is at Berlin only during the Carnival, which begins on the twenty-second of December, and ends on the twenty-fourth of January.

The palace of Sans Souci, which was built by his Majesty, is agreeably situated about a quarter of a league from Potsdam, on a rising ground. It is a low building, the stile of which is extremely simple. The apartments are judiciously laid out, and furnished with great taste. In this palace there is an admirable gallery of pictures,

in which the King has collected many capital performances of the most celebrated painters, particularly of those of the Flemish school. The gardens are spacious, and abound with ornaments, such as statues, vases, &c. One part of them is set apart for the choicest and best fruit trees. No person is allowed to go to Sans Souci, not even the Royal Family, without the King's special permission. He has always, as I said, three or four generals about his person, and these with their servants have apartments in a part of the palace constructed for this purpose. They dine every day at the King's table, at which there are usually twelve or fourteen covers. At the end of the gardens belonging to Sans Souci his Majesty has erected the *New Palace* (*le Palais Neuf*), which is situated about a league from Potsdam, in a low and marshy situation, and upon a sandy soil. This palace has been raised since the peace, and has cost the King upwards of six millions of crowns, exclusive of the furniture, which is truly superb. His Majesty has adopted the Composite order in this edifice, and has ornamented it with a great number of fine statues, which have a fine effect. The inside of the building is extremely convenient, but in a singular taste. The most curious apartment in this palace, is that which is named the *Grotto*. It is, properly speaking,

speaking, the hall, and is formed entirely of marble. Over this there is another apartment nearly in the same taste.

IN front of the palace are the offices, to which you ascend by a flight of marble steps: these are connected with the main building by a beautiful double colonade. One of these wings is intended for the reception of strangers, and the other for the King's household. At the two extremities of the court that fronts the palace, are two buildings, with extensive inner courts; one of these is for the house-keeper, gardeners, &c. and the other consists of coach-houses, stables, &c.

WHEN his Majesty expects a visit from the Royal Family, and the princesses are to be of the party, he receives them at this new palace, where he regales them with grand feasts, balls, French plays, Italian and comic operas, &c. The court on such occasions is extremely brilliant, and not only the Royal Family and foreign princes, but likewise officers, and all foreigners of any note are invited to dine with the King. The diversions of the theatre finish at four o'clock, when the company sit down at two tables. The first table, which consists of fifty or sixty covers, is for the Royal Family, and for such foreigners as have been invited; the second is set apart for the officers of the garrison of Potsdam.

The tables are the same every day, the only variation is in the diversions.

His Majesty invites the wives of all his officers without distinction, and they play and sup with the princesses. As for the King he lives in his usual manner, and eats no supper. As these visits are by no means very pleasing to him, he makes them as short as possible, and at the expiration of eight or ten days dismisses his brothers, sisters, nieces, &c. without any ceremony. It is right to observe likewise, that these parties are seldom repeated oftener than once or, at the 'most, twice a-year. As soon as the princes and princesses with the rest of the court are departed, the King returns to Sans Souci, and every thing resumes its usual order. His Majesty seems to be very fond of his family, which is very numerous; he likewise lives on good terms with the Queen, but he sees her only two or three times in a year, and she seldom comes to Potsdam.

THE Prince Royal of Prussia, who is nephew to the King, and presumptive heir to the Crown, resides at Potsdam, with the Princess Royal his spouse; nor is he suffered to be absent a single night from the garrison without the King's express permission. There is no more favour shewn to him than to any other officer of his rank, which is only that of a Major General,

ral. This Prince is but indifferently lodged, which by the bye is somewhat extraordinary, in a city where almost every body is magnificently accomodated. His whole suite consists of two aid-de-camps, who are allowed him by the King, with forty-five thousand crowns *per annum* for his support, The Princess Royal has a farther allowance of two thousand crowns annually for pin money, and his Majesty often makes her presents in cloaths, jewels, &c. The King likewise takes upon himself the expences of the Prince's stables, but his Royal Highness is expected to furnish the horses and carriages. The Prince's children, two sons and two daughters, are maintained, together with their governors and attendants, at the King's expence, and are educated on a plan that is certainly well calculated to make them strong and healthy. There are few private people in easy circumstances who would not think the health of their children endangered, were they to rear them in a similar manner. The eldest, a fine boy six years old, is almost incessantly exposed to the sun, and to every kind of weather. They make him walk six or eight miles every day. He is very often wet through in these excursions, but is never suffered to put on dry cloathing: the consequence of all this is, that the young prince enjoys the best health, and is of
astonishing

astounding strength for a child of his age. His father, the Prince Royal, is one of the tallest and finest men of the king's army, being at least six feet two inches high. This Prince is of a very affable disposition, and endued with the most amiable qualities. His wife, who is a Princess of Hesse-Darmstadt, is tall, of a pleasing figure, and possessed of great good nature. Her Royal Highness's court consists of a chamberlain, a mistress of the robes, and two ladies of the bed-chamber. Colonel Forcade performs the functions of marshal to this little court. Four pages wait on the Prince and Princess; her Highness admits the wives of all the officers of the garrison, without distinction, to her table and card parties, and salutes them when they enter her apartment.

OFFICERS and others are presented to the Prince on the parade, by one of his aide-camps, and invited to his table by a card. They who are presented to the Princess are introduced by the mistress of the robes, or by her chamberlain; and the invitation to her table is by a footman. The prince of Prussia has an excellent band of music, and keeps a good table. His Royal Highness is of a very generous temper, and desirous of doing good; this has induced him to take up large sums at different times, for which he pays an exorbitant interest.

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THE King has only two brothers living; the eldest of them, Prince Henry, is married to a princess of Hesse Cassel, but has no children; the youngest, Prince Ferdinand, is married to a princess of Brandenburg-Schwedt, by whom he has several children. His Majesty's sisters are the Queen of Sweden, the reigning Duchess of Brunswick, the Margravine Dowager of Anspach, and the Princess Amelia, who usually resides at Berlin, and who is a great favourite with her brother. The Princess Dowager of Prussia *, mother to the Prince Royal, and who is of the House of Brunswick Wolfenbuttle, resides also at Berlin, and has with her the young Princess of Prussia, daughter of the Prince Royal her son, by a Princess of Brunswick, whose marriage has been dissolved. This unfortunate Princess, who is at present at Stettin, is of a pleasing figure, and possessed of much vivacity and good sense. The King is said to be very fond of her, notwithstanding her disgrace; so that there is good reason to hope that her misfortunes will not be of very long duration.

THE mention of this Princess reminds me of one of the King's decisions, that immediately concerns her, and does great honour to his Majesty. Some time ago, her Highness gave orders to have some rich stuffs

* This Princess died at Berlin on the 13th of January, 1780, of an inflammation of the lungs.

T.
was sister of 9th wife sent

sent from Lyons directed to her at Stettin. As foreign stuffs pay an immense duty in the Prussian dominions, the collector of the customs at Stettin had the impertinence to detain them : the Princess highly incensed, sent to inform the collector that she would satisfy his demands ; and at the same time desired that he would come himself with the stuffs for that purpose. Her orders were obeyed, but the collector was no sooner introduced into her presence, than she took the merchandize from him with indignation, and at the same time gave him two or three cuffs in the face. The officer enraged at this treatment, addressed a long and very formal memorial to his Majesty, setting forth how much he had been dishonoured in the performance of his duty. Here follows the King's decision on this matter :

“ THE loss of the duty must be placed to
 “ my account ; the stuffs must remain with
 “ the Princess ; the cuffs with him that received them : as to the supposed dishonour,
 “ I cancel it at the request of the complainant—but it is of itself null ; for the white
 “ hand of a fair lady cannot possibly dishonour the face of a custom-house officer.

Signed

“ FREDERICK.”

True : but the answer?
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THE following decision is not less curious. The commissioners of the excise having condemned a common soldier to pay a fine of ten thousand crowns for smuggling, and this sentence, according to the usual mode of proceeding, having been laid before the King for his approbation, his Majesty wrote in the margin, "Before I confirm this sentence, I wish to know how it will be possible to make a common soldier pay ten thousand crowns."

It would be an easy matter to fill a volume with the anecdotes that are related of this Prince.

SOME years ago, one of the hussars of his bed-chamber, robbed his Majesty of ten thousand crowns, which indeed was no difficult matter, as the King is far from being distrustful, and suffers his money to lie in rouleaus under the tables in his cabinet for a fortnight or three weeks before it is carried to his treasury. The next day at dinner the King complained of the theft, and with his usual pleasantry said he was surrounded with thieves, but he gave orders that no search should be made. Some days afterwards, an old servant came to inform his Majesty that one of his hussars was the robber; the King replied, "You are an impostor, and even if the thing were so, you do wrong to mention it." The accuser insisted, however, on the truth of his

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charge, and at the same time assured his master that the hussar had contrived to convey five thousand crowns to Berlin, and that the remaining five thousand were sewed up in his mattrass, "If your Majesty has any doubts remaining," continued the domestic, "I can shew you the money." "By no means," replied the King, "and I order you to say no more about it."

EIGHT or ten days after this affair, the King, in one of his morning rides, met his hussar in a carriage. This exasperated him, "What," said he, "you rascal, is it in this manner you spend the money you robbed me of?" He suffered the hussar, however, to go forwards, but the next day ordered him to be sent back to the regiment he had belonged to a few years before. His Majesty never reviews this regiment without asking his old servant, whether he has left off his custom of travelling in a coach.

HIS Prussian Majesty is much inclined to joke with the persons he esteems, but he sometimes carries his pleasantry rather too far. The most frequent object of the King's wit is Colonel Quintus. This sometimes proves the source of little animosities, which soon subside again.

THIS same Quintus before his entrance into the King's service, was a Professor in a German

a German university *, and bore the name of Guischart. At the beginning of the last war, the Professor being desirous of serving his Prussian Majesty in a military capacity, quitted his chair and came to offer his services to this Prince, who was pleased with the zeal he expressed for his interests, and soon raised him to the command of a battalion. He distinguished himself so much in this post that the King gave him the name of Quintus *Julius*, which he has retained ever since, and from that moment he has seldom been long absent from the King's person. The Colonel is a man of merit, and a good officer. He has published several military works in French, and among others, in 1758, his Military Memoirs concerning the Greeks and Romans, in two volumes quarto, with plans

* Our Author has here fallen into a mistake. Colonel Quintus never filled a chair in any university ; he had indeed solicited a professorship in the university of Franeker in Friesland ; but not succeeding, he turned his views towards a military life. He was a captain in the Dutch service in the year 1758, about which time he entered into the service of the King of Prussia, who changed his name of *Charles Guischart* into that of *Quintus Julius*, on account of the profound knowledge which this extraordinary man had of the tactics of the Ancients. At the age of twelve he is said to have understood not only the Latin and Greek languages, but likewise Hebrew, Syriac, and Arabic.—French, English, Dutch, and Italian, were as familiar to him as the German, which was his native language. A little before his death he published in four volumes, octavo, Historical and Critical Memoirs concerning several points of military antiquities. T.

and figures. This valuable performance, after passing through three editions, has been severely criticised in a late publication by Count Loloos, a nobleman of great abilities in tactics, and Colonel Quintus had the mortification to find himself obliged to defend himself, after having enjoyed a ten years triumph. The King's remark to him on this subject, galled him more than any thing else. As this Prince was rising from table one day, Quintus requested his permission to print a new work; "I grant it to you with all my heart," replied his Majesty, "but I would advise you to ask the consent of Count Loloos." Two days after this, the King contrived at dinner to turn the conversation on the commanders of his light troops in the last war, and observed, at the same time, with much pleasantry, that these troops had been headed only by cut purses: "As for Quintus," added his Majesty, "he has found it difficult to leave off those lucrative habits, and for some years I was obliged to keep a good eye on my purse and my jewels when he was near me." The Colonel, piqued at this observation, could not help saying, "It is true, Sire, that I have robbed in my time, but it was by your orders, and the greatest part of the booty fell to your share." The King pretended not to hear this reply, and immediately turned the conversation

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conversation to some other subject; Quintus, however, withdrew in a pet to Potsdam, and omitted to wait on the King in his bed-chamber, as he had been accustomed to do. The Monarch piqued in his turn at this studied neglect, sent him no invitation to dinner, and Quintus remained at Potsdam. Eight or ten days passed in this manner, and the breach was supposed to be irreparable, when the King began to relent, but at the same time was unwilling to seem to make the first overture for a reconciliation. He therefore dispatched one of his equerries to Quintus, with orders to ask the Colonel, how it had happened, that in ten days he had not had time to give him an account of the new work he had put into his hands? Quintus knowing he had received no such commission from his master, sent for answer that his Majesty must certainly be mistaken. The King repeated the message, and the Colonel repaired to the bed-chamber, where his Majesty conversed with him about news, literature, &c. without taking any notice of what had passed, and the next day he was invited to the King's table as usual.

As the King has never any of the great officers of the crown about his person, their posts are merely honorary. His treasurer is an *heyduc*, who can neither read nor write, and who sits upon the box with
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the coachman, when his Majesty travels; although his secretaries follow their master in a coach. This *heyduc* pays the expences of the kitchen, livery, stables, &c. and likewise executes the King's orders with regard to gratuities, and other disbursements. In a word, the care of his Majesty's privy purse is wholly intrusted to the domestic. Formerly it was the servant who had the care of the stove in the King's apartment, that had the management of the business, till his Majesty accidentally discovered that this fellow had plundered him. The story is as follows: the King had given orders for some carving for one of his apartments at Sans Souci; the workman who was charged with this commission, not having finished it so soon as his Majesty expected, the King asked him the reason of the delay; "Sire," said the man, "I am at present extremely busy in ornamenting a ceiling in the new house Mr. — (naming the treasurer) is building." The Monarch's curiosity was excited by this information, and he determined to be an eye witness of his treasurer's prodigality. For this purpose he contrived to visit the new building one morning, at an hour when he was informed that his domestic was present superintending his workmen. The King entered the house very unexpectedly, and desired to see the different apartments. His Majesty

jesty admired their elegance, and praised
 the taste of the owner. At length being
 conducted into a bed-chamber of singular
 elegance; his Majesty begged to know who
 was to sleep in this magnificent apartment?
 "It is for myself, Sire," replied the Trea-
 surer in a low voice, and with no little em-
 arrassment. The Monarch said no more,
 but instantly withdrew. The architect
 who had the management of the building
 happening to be at the door as his Majesty
 came out, the King asked him how much
 the house would cost, "About sixty thou-
 sand crowns," replied the builder, "And
 "pr'ythee, Sir," said his Majesty to the
 unlucky Treasurer, who stood trembling
 behind him, "where did you get all this
 "money?" "From your coffers, Sire,"
 replied the Treasurer, throwing himself at
 the King's feet, "but I will certainly re-
 place it." Upon this, the Monarch, whose
 patience was now exhausted, gave the fel-
 low a severe caning, exclaiming at the
 same time, "I should have pardoned you,
 "you rascal, if it had not been for the
 "fine bed-chamber you have the impu-
 dence to sleep in." The man supposed
 his ruin inevitable, but the next day his
 Majesty sent for him, and ordered him to
 open the coffer in his presence, when the
 King finding in it only two or three thou-
 sand crowns, blustered in his usual man-
 ner,

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her, called him thief and scoundrel ; but ended with telling him to take what remained and never to let him see him again. Thus the affair ended. This anecdote proves that avarice, properly speaking, is not one of the passions of this Monarch, and that he often suffers himself to be cheated with a philosophical tranquillity. The following are instances of his liberality. General Leschwitz had served the King during the last war with the greatest distinction, without having received the smallest recompence; and after the peace was concluded, six years passed, during which the King scarcely spoke to him. At the end of this period, a regiment of guards and the government of Potsdam became vacant, and this seemingly neglected officer received both from his royal master. The same year, lands to the value of two hundred thousand crowns, of which the King had the reversion, fell into his hands, and he laid hold of this new opportunity of rewarding this general. He made over to him these lands by a formal donation, ordered him to take immediate possession of them, and accompanied his gift with the following short letter.

“ GENERAL LESCHWITZ, the important services you rendered me during the last
“ war,

“ war, are still fresh in my remembrance.—
 “ I have been waiting with impatience for
 “ an opportunity of rewarding you.—I
 “ could not do so before this moment.—
 “ Go and take possession of the lands made
 “ over to you in the inclosed patent, &c.

Signed

“ FREDERICK.”

THE Baron de ——— one of his aid-de-
 camps, who had likewise served him with
 singular zeal and distinction during the last
 war, received no recompence, nor any
 marks of the King's favour till four years
 after the peace, when he unexpectedly re-
 ceived a most gracious letter from his royal
 master, accompanied with a present of sixty
 thousand crowns. I myself, in the year
 1771, was acquainted with a captain in a
 regiment of infantry, who presented a me-
 morial to his Majesty, requesting permission
 to sell his estate, as his situation in the
 army did not allow him time to manage it
 properly, and he had moreover been
 obliged to mortgage it for twenty-four thou-
 sand crowns. The King soon after his re-
 turn to Potsdam, sent this officer twenty-
 four thousand crowns to discharge the in-
 cumbrance, and added to this present a
 farther sum of six thousand crowns for
 the repairs of his estate. The history of

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princes affords but few fimilar instances. There is ufually more of weaknefs and oftentation than of real generofity in the munificence of the great. Their favours are commonly lavifhed on miftreffes and parasites, thofe of the King of Pruffia are beftowed only on perfons of real merit.

THIS Monarch has always on his table an exact lift of the product of the finances, and the expences of government; and every year, after cafting up the account and ftriking a balance, he throws into his treasury a furplus of about four hundred thoufand crowns. The remainder of his favings is employed in penfions, prefents, buildings, &c. At his expence, forty houfes are built every year at Berlin, and thirty-two at Potsdam. They are conftituted after the King's plans, and his principal architect attends him on a certain day every year to receive his orders on this head. As this Prince has collected engravings and drawings of the moft beautiful houfes in Italy, and other parts of Europe, he felects fuch as he likes beft, pointing out the additions or alterations he wifhes to have made, and advances the neceffary fum to the managers. Thofe people fometimes abufe the King's liberality, employ the money on their own private affairs, and the buildings are of courfe neglected.

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When this happens, his Majesty makes a great noise, but the affair generally ends with his advancing more money, and employing other managers.

WHEN the houses are finished, they are given to individuals, generally to the proprietors of the old houses that stood on the same spot, and sometimes to his officers when the ground happens to be the King's own property; but always on condition that the ground floor shall be set apart for lodging soldiers, as there are no barracks at Potsdam. This ground floor, which his Majesty reserves to himself in every house, consists of two apartments, one of which is large enough to contain four beds, together with a wardrobe for the soldiers' cloaths and accoutrements. The proprietor of the house is also bound to keep a maid-servant to clean their rooms, make their beds, go to market for them, and dress their victuals; he is likewise obliged to furnish them with salt, mustard, and even with firing, if the wood allowed by government is not sufficient for them. In consideration of all these charges, the inhabitants of Potsdam pay only very small duties on provisions and merchandize.

IF the King lives ten years longer, Potsdam will be one of the finest cities of Germany, as it will consist entirely of new houses, which are all of them extremely

uniform, and built of a fine white free stone. The streets are broad, straight, and well paved. It is to be lamented, however, that so many superb edifices should be erected on so insecure a foundation, the soil being a mere quicksand. This circumstance is every day productive of some accident. His Majesty has built several beautiful squares, and ornamented them with agreeable walks and rows of trees, so that he has in fact neglected nothing that can render the aspect of a city pleasing: but unfortunately, as we just now remarked, such is the nature of the soil, that it sinks considerably every year.

THE King has inclosed an immense piece of water, in the Dutch quarter, with free stone, and surrounded it with an elegant balustrade. This reservoir, which receives the water of the river Havel, supplies all the canals in Potsdam, upon which barges laden with merchandize are conveyed to different parts of the town. In the middle of the reservoir, is a little building built by the late King, who used to hold his councils of war in it, and seldom failed to repair thither every evening to drink beer and smoke a pipe with his generals. On those occasions a kind of supper was served up of salt beef, ham, and Brunswick sausages. The reigning King has neglected this

this building till it is almost in ruins. Frederick builds, but never repairs.

THE forty houses that are built every year at Berlin, are constructed on the same principle as those at Potsdam, and disposed of in the same way. In like manner, a certain number of houses, or other buildings are every year erected at the King's expense at Königsberg, Breslaw, and other towns of his dominions.

BERLIN, though not more than half the size of Paris, is certainly one of the finest cities in Europe. The houses resemble those at Potsdam, so that their exterior appearance is extremely elegant, but few of them are more than two stories high. The streets are airy, well paved, and of considerable length. Frederick-street, which is the longest, extends across the town, and is near three miles long. Many others go off from this at right angles, and are somewhat more than a mile, or about half a French league, long. There are several magnificent edifices in this city, most of which have been built by his present Majesty. One of the most superb buildings in Berlin, is the Roman Catholic church, which is formed after the model of the Rotunda, or Pantheon, at Rome. Christians of every denomination, Jews, Turks, and in a word, persons of every sect upon earth, are
allowed

allowed the free exercise of their religion in the Prussian dominions. As for the King himself, he never attends any place of worship, but contents himself with suffering every man to follow the dictates of his own conscience in these matters.

Not far from the church is an immense building, which, when finished, is intended for the royal library, and for the meetings of the Berlin Academy of Sciences. The disbursements of this Prince since the peace, in buildings, fortifications, canals, &c. have been enormous.

EVERY thing is managed in a singular manner in this country. The King has no treasurer or comptroller of his works. The engineers, when a building is to be erected at the expence of the crown, or the contractors, when it is to be completed by a certain set of people, at a stipulated price, have the sole management of these matters. The money is advanced to them before hand, and as no person has authority to control them, they are often unfaithful, and their frauds are not punished with sufficient severity. The same abuses happen in the construction of fortifications. It is not long ago, that an engineer, who was employed to repair the works of some place in Silesia, made so bad a use of his commission, and proved so oppressive to
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the villages that were to furnish him with carriages and labourers, that the complaints of the poor peasants at length reached the King's ear. This was rather an uncommon circumstance, his Majesty not being readily inclined to listen to injurious reports of any kind. The Engineer, however, received orders to give an account of his conduct, and thinking himself ruined, hanged himself in his bed-chamber. The King's seal was put upon his effects, and upon opening them they found sixty thousand crowns in gold, together with a great quantity of plate, and other valuable articles, all of which by his Majesty's order were afterwards delivered to the widow.

THE Reader will not be surprised at the great gains of those who are intrusted with the management of fortifications, when he is told that every fortified place has a certain number of villages within its district, each of which is obliged to furnish a certain number of waggons and horses. The King pays at the rate of about tenpence sterling for the carriage of every waggon load, and the same price to every peasant for his day's work. An engineer who is appointed to a commission of this sort, usually begins with purchasing fifty or sixty waggons, and four able horses for each, upon his own account. He is enabled to do this by his always having large sums in advance
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in his hands. When he has got his carriages, he contrives to employ them in fetching and carrying materials within a small distance, so that they go and come twelve or fifteen times a-day, and each journey is regularly entered in his accounts. This, however, does not prevent his calling upon the villages within his district for their *quota* of horses and carriages. These are employed in fetching the heaviest loads, and from the greatest distance. They are usually detained three days; and the peasants during all that time are obliged to furnish provisions for themselves, and forage for their cattle, and after all they have but little money to receive, as they are seldom able to go and come above two or three times in a day, and sometimes not more than once. It likewise happens, that as there are always more carriages called for than are wanted, the more opulent peasants get themselves excused from serving, by paying a ducat or two to the officer. These arrangements are carried on in a clandestine manner, without any superior officer being able to prevent them. The same thing happens to the day labourers, the engineer having it in his power to increase or diminish their number as he thinks fit. All these circumstances considered, it is not to be wondered at that the places of strength, which have
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been either built or repaired by his Prussian Majesty, have cost him immense sums, are very defective, difficult to defend, and upon the whole, rather an embarrassment than an advantage. The construction of the fortress of Silberberg in Silesia, and the repair of the fortifications of Glatz, have cost between six and seven millions of crowns, without being put really into a better state; and though the fortifications of those places are augmented every year, I should not like to be intrusted with their defence.

THE King in a visit he made to Glatz and Silberberg, said to the Count de P—— ?
 “ In case of a war, I shall appoint you
 “ Governor of one of these places.” “ I
 “ intreat your Majesty,” replied the Count,
 “ not to grant me that favour, for although
 “ I am ready to lose my life in your ser-
 “ vice, I should certainly desert, were you
 “ to oblige me to accept it.” “ Why so?”
 said the King, with some warmth, “ Be-
 “ cause, Sire, I dread Spandau.”—His Ma-
 jesty made no farther reply, but turned the
 conversation to some other topic. The
 Count was certainly in the right, both
 those places being very difficult to defend,
 especially with the weak garrison the King
 of Prussia usually places in them. The
 Count was likewise no stranger to the rude
 manner in which his Majesty treats an un-
 fortunate officer on such occasions. The
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King had been often heard to say, that none but rascals and cowards would give up a place, without having held it out to the last extremity; and the history of the last war, affords many striking examples of his mode of thinking on this subject. The Governor of Schweidnitz was sent prisoner to Spandau, for having yielded to General Laudohn, although he had defended the place with great gallantry, and with a handful of men, comparatively speaking, his garrison not having been sufficient to line the ramparts. The Governor of Glatz was treated in a still more ungenerous manner on a similar occasion: the King ordered him to be arrested, and conveyed in a common waggon, escorted by two hussars, beyond the outposts of his army, forbidding him at the same time, on pain of death, ever to set foot again in his dominions. This officer, who was a native of Piedmont, had been originally a private soldier in the guards, and after forty years service, had risen by his merit to the rank of major-general. His education, and the manner in which he had spent the greatest part of his life, had probably not furnished him with enough of that sort of knowledge which is requisite to make a good general, but he was certainly a brave and worthy officer, and the King treated him with too much severity. I have already remarked, that

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that his Prussian Majesty, though a great man in so many other respects, is but a very indifferent engineer. There are hardly any of his strong places capable of withstanding a regular attack, made by troops that are experienced in this branch of the military art.

THE King has formed several excellent establishments in his dominions, and restored others that were instituted by his predecessors. Among these particular attention is due to the Academy of Sciences at Berlin, which was founded by Frederick I. his grandfather, but neglected in the succeeding reign; and to the Military Academy, which is agreeably situated on the banks of the Sprey, opposite to the royal palace. In this school, which is under the wisest and best regulations, fifteen young gentlemen, selected from the corps of noble cadets, are maintained and educated at the King's expence. Their dress, which is a plain uniform, consists of a blue coat, yellow waistcoat and breeches, with white buttons. To every three students an old, sensible, and experienced officer is appointed as governor, to be constantly near his pupils, and preside over their education. The three pupils sleep together in the same chamber, and have a lacquey in the livery of the house, for their attendant.

dant. The manner in which these young gentlemen are educated, is admirably calculated to render them useful members of society, and to inspire them with notions suited to their birth, for they are usually of the best families. They are instructed in all the living languages, and in the different sciences, by excellent masters or professors, who are generally members of the Academy of Sciences.

EACH student has a monthly allowance of nine crowns for pocket-money. Their governors are to take care that this money is not expended improperly. In winter they go in a body twice a week to the French comedy; in fine weather they make excursions into the country; one or two of their governors are always of these parties. These gentlemen, likewise, take it in turn to attend the students to the riding-house, and in their other exercises. All the governors and students dine together in a large hall; and the management of the house is intrusted to a Privy Counsellor, who acts under the direction of a Lieutenant General.

THIS establishment is said to cost his Majesty forty-five thousand crowns annually. But, besides the young gentlemen who are educated in this manner at the King's expence, fifteen others are admitted, whose
parents

parents pay eight hundred crowns *per annum* for each to the director. These live, and are educated, precisely in the same way as those who are maintained at the King's expence; and no one can be admitted on this footing without his Majesty's express permission.

THE School of Noble Cadets, though in some respects it may be useful, is by no means equal to the establishment of which we have been speaking.

THIS School, which is an old building built in the form of a circus, was originally a theatre for the combats of wild beasts, a barbarous diversion much in vogue in Germany. They have contrived to form apartments in it for the reception of three hundred and fifty cadets, the greater part of whom come from the remoter provinces, particularly Pomerania, which swarms with poor nobility.

THESE cadets are fed in a coarse manner, and cloathed like common soldiers; their education is altogether military; they are taught to read and write, and are likewise instructed in mathematics, and the languages. A few old invalids are appointed to superintend their education, but as these governors are seldom men of very enlarged ideas, the students cannot profit much by their instructions, unless it be in the manual exercise, which they are taught on certain days

days of the week, when they are formed into companies for this purpose on the parade,

THE King allows six crowns *per* month, for the maintenance of each cadet. The expence of their cloathing is placed to the army account. This corps is the nursery of subaltern officers for the Prussian armies.

THERE is another, though less numerous, institution of this kind at Breslaw; and in another little town of Silesia, a military academy has been established, similar to that at Berlin, though not so well conducted.

THE Orphan House at Potsdam, is an admirable foundation, and well managed. Six thousand children are nourished, clothed and supported in this asylum at the King's expence. The boys are soldiers born, and are distributed through the several regiments, as soon as they arrive at the age that fits them for service; the girls (who, by the bye, are allowed too much liberty) are maintained in the house till they are placed out or married. Several foundations of this kind, though on a smaller scale, are to be met with in other parts of the Prussian dominions. The building for this purpose at Potsdam, is of an immense size, and extremely elegant: the number of children that are admitted into it is unlimited,

limited, and not only orphans, but the children of soldiers, or peasants who are unable to maintain them, are all received without any trouble, no distinction being made between a bastard and a legitimate offspring. Indeed, the measures taken by his Prussian Majesty to promote the propagation of the species in his territories, are not a little extraordinary. Pregnancy is rendered respectable, however it has been acquired; a big belly secures, by law, the licentious daughter from the reproaches of her parents, and a maid-servant from the censures of her master and mistress, who are not suffered to turn her away, or to ill-treat her, nor even to reprove her for what she has done. When a girl is with child, she applies to a magistrate, who fixes the place where she is to lie in, and the inhabitants of the town or village pay the expences of her delivery, if she or her family are not in circumstances to do it. The moment the child is born, it is put out to nurse at the expence of its parents, if they are capable of maintaining it, if they are not, the parish advances the money, and is re-imbursed by the King.

THE hospitals are sadly neglected through all the Prussian dominions, the patients being in want not only of the necessary attendance, but likewise of a proper diet.

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this is more

There are no military hospitals, if we except a few for venereal complaints, which are not better regulated than the others. The number that die in these places is astonishing; the chief management of them is intrusted to a Surgeon-major, who is generally a very ignorant person, assisted by a few barber-surgeons. Each regiment has its particular hospital, which is an indifferent house hired for this purpose, in which the soldier is obliged to live upon his pay. The captain of each company hires a woman to wait upon his sick soldiers, and the patients are attended by the surgeon of their regiment, who is allowed about two shillings *per annum* for every soldier. For this sum he is obliged to pay the rent of the hospital, and to furnish the sick with the necessary medicines, a sufficient proof this, that of all the soldiers in Europe, the Prussian has the greatest reason to dread a bed of sickness.

THERE are numerous manufactures in different parts of the Prussian dominions. Those of silk at Berlin, and Francfort upon the Oder, succeed well; they are carried on by French Protestants, great numbers of whom have settled in the King's territories. The china manufacture at Berlin has made such a progress toward perfection, that it almost equals that of Dresden, both in beauty

beauty of painting and elegance of pattern, and is even said to excel it in the materials it is composed of. As this manufacture is carried on for the King's account, his Majesty (who understands perfectly the practical science of ways and means) employs, among others, one good expedient to promote the sale of its productions. Every Jew who marries, is obliged to buy directly, at the royal warehouse, a certain quantity of china, proportioned to his circumstances; and this quantity is never smaller than two hundred crowns, amounting sometimes to fix thousand. The purchaser is allowed to sell what he has bought, nay, even to send it to foreign countries without paying duty.

THE iron manufactory at Spandau is very considerable. The machines for forging and polishing the metal are all worked by water. From this place the whole Prussian army is furnished with cannon, musquets, pistols, bayonets, cuirasses, and broad-swords, but the small arms are sent to Potsdam to be mounted. No foreigners are allowed to visit this manufactory, but when the traveller is a little acquainted with the manner in which orders of this sort are executed in Prussia, he finds it an easy matter to gratify his curiosity. A few pence judiciously distributed, easily removes every difficulty, and I have observed that, excepting what

concerns military matters, there is no country in Europe where the orders of the sovereign are less rigorously executed than in this. The famous Frederician code, which does so much honour to its author, does not seem to be more scrupulously followed than the laws of other countries.

BESIDES the public buildings at Berlin, which I have already mentioned, there are some others of great beauty and magnificence. The King's palace is an old Gothic structure, which is much admired; the great door of this edifice particularly attracts the notice of connoisseurs. There is no garden to this palace. The opera house is a spacious and beautiful building, decorated with a great number of statues, as are all the edifices that have been constructed under his Majesty's directions. On the front of this building, which stands opposite to Prince Henry's palace, is the following inscription :

*FREDERICUS REX, APOLLINI
ET MUSIS.*

BERLIN is indisputably a fine city, but it would certainly be much handsomer if the streets were not quite so broad, or the houses were loftier; the just proportion in this respect seems to be wanting here as well as at Potsdam. There is another fault

fault that is common to both these places, and this is the want of the necessary descent in the streets to carry off the water, for at present whenever much rain falls they are all of them overflowed.

THE Arsenal, which was built by the Elector Frederick-William, is one of the finest monuments extant of that Prince's reign. It forms a large square, and contains an immense number of cannon, together with arms sufficient for upwards of an hundred and eighty thousand men. Opposite to this building stands the Prince Royal's palace, on an island formed by the Sprey. The bridge over this river is decorated with an equestrian statue of the Great Elector. This is not the only ornament of this fort in Berlin; in one of the squares, there is a statue of the famous Field Marshal Schwerin, who fell gloriously in his eighty-fourth *year*⁷*, at the battle of Prague. There are also portraits of this officer, and of the late Marshal Keith, in the Lutheran church at Berlin.

BERLIN, like Landau, consists of several distinct wards, each of which has its town-house,

* When this brave veteran perceived his troops on the point of giving way, he took a standard into his own hands, and riding gallantly towards the enemy, called upon his troops to follow him. The soldiers, stimulated by this noble example, returned to the charge, and proved victorious, but their leader was killed. T.

its magistrates, and separate jurisdiction. In the new quarter, the streets are lined with trees, and frequented as public walks. The weather is very sultry at Berlin in the Autumn, and its situation in a sandy plain, occasions a disagreeable dust in hot weather when there is much wind.

THE palace, or castle, as it is called, of Mont Bijou, is a small building, pleasantly situated just without the walls of Berlin on the banks of the Sprey. The gardens of this palace are agreeably laid out, but have been much neglected since the death of the Queen Mother, who used to reside here. The present Queen sometimes lives at Mont Bijou in the winter months.

THE Park, which joins to the town, is situated between Berlin and Charlottenbourg; it is of considerable extent, and there are many good walks in it; every body is at full liberty to frequent it either on foot, on horseback, or in a carriage, on condition that they take no dogs with them. In fine weather half the inhabitants of Berlin are to be seen walking here, and on holidays booths are erected for the populace, who divert themselves with music, and regale with beer, lemonade, and other refreshments.

CHARLOTTENBOURG, another royal palace, built by Frederick I. is situated at the extremity of the Park on the banks of the Sprey:

Sprey: the apartments in this edifice are grand and splendid, and they are very richly furnished: the gardens, which are extensive, are kept in good order. There is likewise a gallery of pictures in this palace, some of which are greatly esteemed by connoisseurs.

IN winter the Queen has a public day twice a-week while she resides at Mont Bijou; in summer she resides at Schoenhau-
 sen, a country-house she is very fond of, and which is situated about four miles from Berlin. Here she has a court only on Wednesdays. The princes, princesses, nobility, and foreign ministers attend on these occasions, about five or six in the evening. Her Majesty is affable and generous, extremely well bred, and much beloved by all who are about her person. The Princess who is married to Prince Henry, the King's brother, is generally with her. Prince Henry himself lives during the greater part of the year at Rhin-
 berg, a castle situated about ten miles from Berlin, and seldom comes to that city except in carnival time, to meet the King his brother, who pays an annual visit at that season to his capital, which is then extremely brilliant. French tragedies, grand Italian operas, and comic operas, are acted alternately at the great theatre; and as these performances are at the King's expence, tickets
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for admission are delivered *gratis*. On three evenings of the week, there is a ball at court, and on three other nights a masked ball at the theatre.

THE soil throughout the whole electorate of Brandenburg is chiefly sandy; notwithstanding which, the country is well cultivated, and produces pretty good crops of wheat, barley, and hay. There are likewise considerable vineyards in the environs of Potsdam and Brandenburg, but the wine they yield is of a very indifferent quality; part of it is consumed in the country, the remainder is sent to Hamburg and Stettin, where it is mixed with other wines, particularly Pontac and Bergerac. These adulterated wines are, afterwards distributed through the electorate of Hanover, Holstein, Mecklenburg, and even Brandenburg, so that the Potsdam wine returns home again, after having changed its name and colour.

THE Prussian dominions are watered by several great rivers, that communicate with each other by means of navigable canals, so that every kind of commodity may be brought into this country from the different parts of the world, and the national productions exported with the same facility. They communicate with the Baltic at Stettin, and with the German ocean at Hamburg. The navigation between Berlin

lin and Hamburg is very susceptible of improvement. From Berlin this navigation is carried on by means of the Sprey, as far as Spandau, where this river joins the Havel. Spandau is a small ill built town, situated about nine miles from Berlin. Its fortress is good, and its fortifications regular; they are constructed according to Cohorn's system. This is the only fortified place that can support Berlin. Prisoners of state are confined in the fortress, and malefactors are employed here in repairing the fortifications and the public works. The King's orders are that no person shall be allowed to visit this fortress; but a florin or two will easily open the gate to any one who does not appear in a military dress, nor is it a difficult matter to obtain leave to speak to any of the prisoners. This place is surrounded by the Sprey and the Havel, and as the adjacent country is a mere swamp, the approach to it must be extremely difficult for an army. The garrison of Spandau in time of peace consists of a single battalion of infantry. From this town the barges follow the course of the Havel to Stettin, and from thence to Hamburg. From Spandau to Potsdam the distance is about thirty miles by water, and twenty by land. Potsdam is situated on a peninsula, of twelve miles in circumference, and two in breadth, formed by the Havel,

and

and is without any other fortification than a brick wall of inconsiderable thickness, intended for no other purpose than to prevent desertion. The slip of land that united the peninsula to the *terra firma*, is intersected by a broad canal, over which there is a handsome bridge, that is well guarded. It is on this island that the grand manœuvres are carried on in the month of September. It is indeed a very proper situation for such sort of exercises. I was twice present at them, when the King commanded one party, and General Anhalt the other. This officer, who is extremely intelligent in the open field, outdid his Majesty in his manœuvres on both days; he shines in no other respect, for he is a man of no education, and is rough in his manners, and very passionate. It is even said that his brain is affected to a certain degree by a fall from his horse; how far this is true I will not pretend to determine, but I am informed that his enemies, of whom he has not a few, have made use of this pretext to lessen him in the King's opinion. This monarch, notwithstanding his courage and philosophy, has the weakness to be afraid of madmen, so that now he never invites General Anhalt to his table, and probably will never employ him again.

FROM Potsdam barges go down the Havel to Brandenburg. This river forms several
extensive

extensive lakes, in its course between these two places. Brandenburg, which is a very ancient city, consists of the old and the new towns; the former is without any fortifications; the New Town is garrisoned by a regiment of infantry, and, like Potsdam, is surrounded by a wall. About four miles below Brandenburg, the Havel opens into Lake Blau, at the entrance of which the navigation is at present considerably impeded by an immense bank of sand. The King is expending large sums with a view to remedy this inconvenience. His plan is to embank the Havel for a considerable way upwards, by which means the bed of that river will be narrowed, and its current proportionably accelerated. A little below this lake, near the castle of Blau, the Havel divides into two branches, one of which flows on in a straight course to Hamburg, and the other empties itself into the Elbe at Magdeburg. This last, which serves for the navigation between Berlin and Hamburg, when it has reached the little town of Ratenau, is formed into a canal that has been dug and embanked at a considerable expence. About two miles below Ratenau the barges again enter upon the natural bed of the Havel, which flows on across a flat swampy country to Havelburg, and from thence to Wittenburg, a little be-

H *large* low

low which place it joins the Elbe. By deepening the bed of this river, not only the navigation of it would be facilitated, but the value of the land between Ratenua and the Elbe greatly improved, by being drained, and rendered fertile and healthy, whereas at present it is a mere swamp.

THE navigation from Berlin to Hamburg, after the junction of the Havel with the Elbe, is but little better than before. It is true, that as far as Lintzen, the last town in the Prussian dominions, the river is confined within high banks, which by narrowing and deepening its bed, increase the rapidity of its current, and of course render it more easily navigable. But below Lintzen, the banks of the Elbe, belong to different powers, who, not duly consulting their mutual interest, neglect to make the necessary repairs, and the navigation suffers of course. This is not the only impediment to the trade of this river, for as each state has its custom-house, the barges are obliged to stop every ten or twelve miles, and sometimes oftener, to pay fresh duties, and wait the pleasure of the custom-house officers. The delays occasioned by all this are so great, that a voyage from Berlin to Hamburg, which might easily be performed in seven or eight days, sometimes takes up twenty-seven or twenty-eight, and seldom less

less than twenty. The return of the barges from Hamburg to Berlin against the stream, generally requires five or six weeks, even in the finest weather. On these occasions they make no use either of oxen or horses, as on most of the other navigable rivers of Europe, but employ men in drawing, which is certainly much more expensive.

His Prussian Majesty, notwithstanding his wisdom and vigilance, suffers great abuses to prevail in the collecting of his revenues. This part of the administration is chiefly intrusted to Frenchmen, who find means to amass considerable fortunes. The Sieurs de Launai and de Latre, were for a long time joint managers of this department. The latter has lately persuaded the King to establish a salt company in Prussia, and appoint him to the management of it. This establishment is burthensome both to the sovereign and his subjects, and the Sieur de Latre is the only one that finds his account in it. The Sieur de Launai is now sole director of the excise duties, and as there is nobody to control him, but persons who hold their offices under him, and who of course are his creatures, it is easy to imagine how much he has it in his power to do for himself, in a country where government has but feeble notions on this head.

THE war department is the only one that is superiorly conducted in Prussia; this is one of the principal causes to which the House of Brandenburg is indebted for its present power; the economy that has constantly prevailed in the expenditure of the public money, has likewise not a little contributed to its elevation.

THE troops that compose the Prussian armies are divided into three classes, viz. *Field Regiments*, *Garrison Regiments*, and *Free Battalions*. The first of these classes includes all the regiments of infantry that are known by the name of *Field Regiments*, and likewise the cuirassiers, dragoons, hussars, and the four regiments of artillery. The second class is composed of such regiments as are employed in garrison duty; these sometimes take the field, in which case they are usually employed in the rear of the army. The third class consists of regiments that are hastily levied at the beginning of a war, and of course are the worst troops in the service. They are commonly employed in guarding the advanced posts, and the greater part of them are disbanded when the war is at an end.

THE field infantry is divided into foot-guards, marching regiments, fusileers, and grenadiers. The foot-guards form three battalions; the first is independent of the

two others, and has a different uniform, which is extremely brilliant. It is recruited from the different regiments, and is composed of the tallest men in the army. The captains have the rank of major, and the first lieutenants that of captain. This battalion is constantly in garrison at Potsdam, and seldom takes the field. The last time it was in action was at the battle of Kolin in Bohemia, in which it was almost entirely cut to pieces. As this corps is very expensive, and the King is very fond of it, he exposes it as little as possible.

THE second and third battalions wear the same uniform, and when they take the field are formed into one regiment, which is commanded by the oldest officer of the two. One of these battalions bears the name of grenadier guards, and was originally formed out of the famous tall regiment of the late King. It is at present commanded by General Leschwitz, and is in garrison at Potsdam. It is certainly the finest corps in Europe.

THE marching regiments are distinguished from the fusileers, only by their wearing hats instead of the small grenadier caps worn by the latter. All the regiments of fusileers were raised by the present King. The field regiments of artillery are composed in the same manner as the other regiments,

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THE regiments of the second class, *Garrison Regiments*, as they are called, are likewise divided into infantry, fusileers, and artillery. The number of battalions in each regiment varies from two to four. Foreign recruits are always placed in some of these corps, from whence they are afterwards drafted into the field regiments. In the last war, these garrison troops generally composed the armies commanded by Prince Henry of Prussia, and such as acted on the defensive. Towards the close of the war, however, Prince Henry ventured to give battle to the Austrians at Freyburg, and obtained a complete victory, although his army consisted only of a single regiment of field infantry, two of cuirassiers, and the same number of dragoons and hussars, the rest being made up of garrison regiments and free battalions. From the beginning of the campaign he contrived, by the judicious choice of his posts, to keep the Austrian General, the Prince of Stolberg, at bay, though the latter was greatly superior to him in the number of his troops. The King assured him from day to day, that the moment it should be proper for him to act offensively, he would send him a reinforcement of fifteen thousand of his best troops. The Prince piqued at being obliged to act so long on the defensive, manœuvred at length with so much

much skill, that the Austrian general suffered himself to be drawn into a situation which the Prince considered as a very advantageous one for him to give battle in; he immediately informed the King of this matter, and requested an immediate reinforcement. The messenger returned in twenty hours, with intelligence that his Majesty was advancing in person to his assistance, at the head of a considerable body of troops. But his Royal Highness unwilling to let slip so favourable an opportunity, and perhaps jealous of his reputation, gave battle immediately, without waiting for the promised succours, and had the satisfaction to see his brother arrive the day after his victory. It has been said that the Prince was determined to convince the King that a good general may, by skilful manœuvres, compensate for the inferiority of his troops in point of number. There are some persons, however, who pretend that his Majesty, notwithstanding the advantage he gained from this battle, by its forwarding the peace, did not easily forgive his brother for what he was pleased to deem an act of imprudence.

THE garrison artillery is distributed in different towns and fortresses, and the management of it is intrusted to the commanding officer of the regiment that is in
gar-

garrison in each. There are no town officers in Prussia, except in some of the great towns where the garrison is numerous, such as Berlin, Magdeburg, and Koningsburg. In these there are town-majors and adjutants, who are taken from the corps of invalids.

EVERY regiment in the service is commanded by a general officer, under whom there are three staff officers, who are very often all of the same rank, in which case they take place according to seniority. The general and these staff officers have each of them a company, commanded by a captain-lieutenant. The appointments of the general are about three thousand crowns *per annum*, besides his company and some other perquisites. The second in command, or colonel, receives about fifty crowns a month, over and above his company. The appointments of the other two are altogether arbitrary, and depend wholly on the King's pleasure; so that it is no unusual thing for a major to receive fifteen hundred or two thousand crowns *per annum*, exclusive of his company, while the lieutenant-colonel, or even colonel, has, perhaps, not more than eight hundred, or a thousand.

It is remarkable, that his Majesty has a great number of majors in his service; but

£150

£7.10

but few colonels or lieutenant-colonels, so that some regiments have no colonel, but only three majors, or two majors and a lieutenant-colonel. The King adopted this plan in the course of the last war, and it was certainly of use to him in the exchange of prisoners.

THERE is a considerable corps of officers on the staff of the Prussian army, under the name of quarter-masters: they are of different ranks, and are under the direction of General Anhalt, who is styled Quarter-master-general. The officers who compose this corps, are in general persons of merit.

THE King has likewise aid-de-camps of different ranks, who belong to no particular regiment. This is the capacity in which foreign officers are generally employed when they first enter into the service, the King being unwilling to place them in a regiment till he knows something of their abilities and merit. There are also a great number of supernumerary officers, that have the rank and appointments of colonels, lieutenant-colonels, or captains, but without belonging to any particular corps, all of whom, as well as the quarter-masters and aid-de-camps, are obliged to reside at Potsdam, nor are they suffered to go out of the garrison without permission in writing from the King. A table is kept for these
I gentlemen

gentlemen at Potsdam at the King's expence, and when they take the field, his Majesty provides them with horses, tents, and other necessaries.

not quite exact! -
 IN time of peace, the horses belonging to the army are distributed among the farmers in particular districts, who employ them in husbandry, and are at the expence of keeping them. If a horse is lamed or killed by any accident, the farmer is obliged to make good the loss.

£ 4-10
 THE corps of engineers is constantly in garrison at Potsdam. It consists chiefly of foreigners, and is far from being either numerous or respectable; nor is it likely to improve much while it remains on its present footing; the highest rank in it being that of colonel. The King is not very nice in the choice of these officers; if a man can sketch a few plans, and talk a little of mathematics and fortifications, his Majesty is satisfied, and admits him without consulting any one. The consequence of this is, that few men of merit choose to enter into this corps. The pay of the officers is small, the lieutenants receiving only eighteen, and the captains no more than thirty crowns a-month. This would hardly be sufficient for their support, if they had not pretty good perquisites when they are employed in superintending the public

public works. Till very lately, the best engineers in the King's service excelled only in the open field, and were but little acquainted with the art of conducting sieges, or defending fortifications. Since the peace, indeed, some few foreigners of considerable abilities, have entered into this corps, but they are all of them persons that have suffered some disgrace in their own country, one or two only excepted, and this reflects discredit on the whole corps. So little does his Prussian Majesty seem to care about whom he employs in this line, that he sometimes makes a man an engineer who professes to be wholly unqualified for it. I remember an instance of this sort in Mr. D——, a captain of grenadiers in the French service, who was a very honest man, and a good officer, but having imprudently got deeply in debt, was obliged to decamp. This gentleman came to Potsdam, and offered his services to the King of Prussia, who was pleased with his appearance and abilities, and soon afterwards appointed him major in the corps of engineers. It was to no purpose that the captain of grenadiers assured his Majesty, that he had never served in such a capacity, and that he knew no more of this branch of war, than what is absolutely necessary for a good officer of infantry to be acquainted with ;

with ; the King would hear nothing on the subject.

THE Sieur de ———, lieutenant-colonel and engineer in the French service, deserted and came to Potsdam, where he was presented to the King of Prussia by the name of Count D———. His Majesty finding him to be a man of talents, accepted his services, and gave him good appointments. This self-created Count had the effrontery to introduce his wife to the Queen and Princesses. The Princess Royal was particularly civil to her, and often invited her to her table ; about a twelve-month after the arrival of this couple, the pretended Countess died, and not long after, to the astonishment of every one at Potsdam, the Count's real wife made her appearance, and then it came out that the deceased was a girl of the town, whom he had picked up at Paris. This story made no little noise, and soon reached the King's ear ; his Majesty contented himself with writing the following letter to the Frenchman :

“ LIEUTENANT Colonel Count D———,
 “ or Mr. T———, when I thought you could
 “ be useful to me, it was a matter of indiffe-
 “ rence to me whether you had a wife or
 “ a mistress ; with my usual indulgence,
 “ there-

" therefore, I overlook your insolence in
 " introducing her to the Royal Family;
 " she is dead, and the affair is at an end.
 " I advise you, however, to reflect a little
 " before you think of introducing this
 " other lady who has just made her ap-
 " pearance. Content yourself with serv-
 " ing me faithfully. At your age and
 " mine it is time to have done with the wo-
 " men. I pray God to keep you in his holy
 " protection.

Signed

" FREDERICK."

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HERE this adventure ended, and the Lieutenant-Colonel is now in Prussia, employed in constructing fortifications.

THE field artillery is upon a good footing in Prussia: it consists of four regiments, of two battalions each, and twelve hundred men to each battalion. Besides these four regiments, there is another corps of artillery, consisting of six hundred horsemen, which is in garrison at Potsdam. The pieces are small and short, and are drawn by four strong horses, so that this artillery is moved with great facility; in my opinion, however, the advantages resulting from this establishment, are by no means

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means equivalent to the expence that attends it.

THE corps of miners consists of twelve hundred men, divided into four companies, that are independent of each other. Three of these are old companies, the fourth is newly instituted. The command of each company brings in about three thousand crowns a-year to the captain, and the whole corps is extremely well officered. An old officer, who has the command of one of these companies, related to me the following anecdote of himself. At the siege of Schweidnitz, the King being extremely dissatisfied with his engineers and miners, treated this gentleman somewhat rudely, and concluded with ordering him to leave his service. The officer, knowing the King's temper, made no reply, but quitted the spot. This happened in the trenches. The King seeing him walking off, called him back: "You may stay"—said his Majesty,—"till the siege is over, and then you may go." "I am obliged to your Majesty," replied the officer, "for giving me leave to break an arm or a leg before I leave your service, but I shall stand in need of both to save your Majesty the expence of having me carried out of your territories." The King smiled at this repartee, sent him back to his work, and ordered him a gratuity.

ALL

ALL the troops are new cloathed every year; the old suit is turned and mended to be worn in common; the new suit is put on when the soldier is on duty. They have likewise a working dress, consisting of a jacket and breeches made of old regimentals. In winter they have breeches of woollen cloth, and in summer of linen.

ALL the infantry are cloathed in blue coats, with white waistcoats and breeches, the guards excepted, who wear buff coloured waistcoats and breeches. The regiments are distinguished by the different colours of their facings, and by the trimmings of the officer's coats, for their waistcoats are always plain. The uniform of the footguards is very rich, and that of the officers magnificent. The King's aid-de-camps, and the supernumerary officers who belong to no particular regiment, wear blue coats faced with red, and embroidered with silver, with buff-coloured waistcoats and breeches. This, however, is their grand uniform, and is but seldom worn, for in general all these gentlemen conform to the taste of their master, and wear a plain uniform. General officers are distinguished by a white feather in their hats.

THE first battalion of guards wear white spatterdashes; all the rest of the infantry wear black ones. i.e. footguards
(h. 61)

THE regiments of infantry are but indifferently supplied with hats and caps. The grenadiers and fusileers wear caps, on the front of which are the arms of Prussia on a plate of copper: these caps are so extremely shallow in the crown, that the men are obliged to secure them behind with a lock of hair fastened to a little hook; this, however, is not sufficient to prevent the cap from falling forwards, so that the soldier finds it difficult to keep it on, and after all it affords him no defence either from the sun or the rain. The hats of the field infantry are as injudiciously contrived as the grenadiers caps, being much too shallow in the crown. The cavalry are better served in this respect, but their hats are of an enormous size.

THE firelock used by the infantry is very heavy and too short; on the other hand the bayonet is of great length, and this, with the cylindrical ramrod the King has just introduced in all his regiments of foot, makes the firelock extremely cumbersome, the end of the barrel being heavier by at least three pounds than the breech of the piece. This will no doubt contribute to render the fire of the Prussian infantry less destructive, especially as they have already contracted a bad habit of firing too low: if we add to this, that the Prussian troops, from the quickness of their fire, are unable

to charge properly, we shall be convinced that they make more noise than execution. I have seen whole battalions (even of the guards, who are certainly the best disciplined of any) employed in firing at platoons of soldiers painted on boards, and placed within a small distance. On these occasions they seldom hit any part but the legs, and the greatest part of their shot was fired into the ground. All the best officers in the service agree, that these new cylindrical ramrods have only the single advantage of enabling the troops to charge a little quicker, but at the same time are attended with numerous inconveniences, and they are afraid that this invention, which has cost the King between three or four hundred thousand crowns, will be the means of losing him the first battle he engages in; none of them, however, have the courage to communicate their fears to this Prince, because it is his own invention.

THERE will, perhaps, be men weak enough to introduce these ramrods in France, and other countries, as well as the order of firing established in Prussia; I am confident, however, that the latter is totally repugnant to the character of the French nation; the bayonet being the weapon that is the best suited to it, and charging by impulsion

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the only way to turn their impetuous courage to advantage.

THE Prussian infantry are furnished with small broad swords; their cartouch-boxes contain about sixty rounds of ammunition.

THE officers, beside the sword, are armed with a spontoon, the shaft of which is thirteen or fourteen feet long. The serjeants' halberds are sixteen feet long; but these weapons are hardly in sufficient number to answer the purpose they are intended for. The divisions are closed at the right and left by serjeants, who, when there is occasion, hook their halberds together, and by this means inclose their platoons, so that the soldier cannot make his escape, but is obliged to fight. The field officers are always on horseback, and command sword in hand, as well as the generals.

THE King furnishes uniforms for all the officers of his army, a stoppage being made in their pay for this purpose, and carried every month to the army chest, which is under the direction of Major-General de Wurtemberg. This officer, in whom his Majesty places the highest degree of confidence, has seldom less than five millions of crowns in his hands, for which he accounts with the King in person. The General, who is a man of genius, is amassing an immense fortune. It is certain, that there is no country in Europe, where a
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man may commit abuses in office with so much impunity as in Prussia; when a person can once gain the confidence of the sovereign, every thing is permitted.

EVERY regiment of infantry and fusileers, like the artillery, consists of two battalions, and each battalion of six companies, one of which is composed of grenadiers. Each company consists of two hundred men, eighty of whom are foreigners, and the rest natives of Prussia. The former are confined to their garrisons in the strictest manner, being never suffered to go out of the walls of the town, and as the Prussian troops do not change their stations as in France, and most other countries of Europe, desertion is difficult, though it is now and then effected. As soon as a soldier is missing from a garrison, his desertion is announced to the adjacent country by a discharge of cannon, and parties are instantly dispatched after him in different directions, so that it is a thousand to one if the poor devil escapes; if a peasant receives him into his cottage, he is severely punished; but if he brings back the runaway to the garrison, he is amply rewarded. The natives of Prussia have more liberty, the greater number of them being allowed to spend ten months of the year at home, viz. from the first of June till the first of April, employed

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in agriculture, or in any other way they please. These men (generally about one hundred from each company) are suffered to take with them their old cloaths, but their new uniform, together with their arms and accoutrements, remain with the regiment, and their pay during the ten months of their absence is carried to the regimental chest, and disposed of at the King's pleasure. His Majesty usually distributes it in gratuities to those captains in the regiment who have served him with the most zeal, giving to some thirty, and to others twenty, or only fifteen mens' pay. The surplus goes towards the raising foreign recruits, a great number of officers being constantly employed for this purpose at Liege, Aix la Chapelle, Hamburg, Nuremberg, Franckfort, and other places. As for the national recruits they cost nothing, every one of the King's subjects, the nobility only excepted, being destined to the service from their cradle, and obliged to wear a badge for this purpose. The King's dominions are divided into a certain number of cantons, or districts, each of which is obliged to raise a certain number of men. Not only each regiment, therefore, but each company of a regiment has its particular district, and at the age of sixteen, every peasant, mechanic, merchant, or citizen, has

has his name inscribed in the war-list of his canton, and is obliged, when called upon, to join the regiment, or company, belonging to that district; for it is very seldom, and only upon extraordinary occasions, that persons inrolled in one canton are allowed to be turned over to another corps, not even to the guards, because these have likewise their districts for national recruits, and are supplied only with foreigners from the rest of the army. When any regiment or company is in want of fresh men to supply the place of such as are dead or dismissed from the service, a field officer, commonly the major of the regiment, goes into the canton, and chooses the number requisite to supply the deficiency. This business is conducted in a very impartial manner, the subjects selected being always such as are the best fitted for service, and who are the least wanted at home. Among the peasantry, the eldest son is usually exempted from the service, that he may be educated to husbandry; and when a farmer has only one son, it seldom happens that he is forced into the army, unless he is remarkably tall and well made.

THESE national recruits remain at first an entire year with their regiments, in order to their being completely instructed in the manual exercise. After that time, they are allowed

allowed to return home every year for ten months, like the rest of their comrades, and when they have attained the age of forty are permitted to quit the service, a privilege never granted to foreigners, who are detained in it, imprisoned, if we may be allowed the expression, in their garrisons, till they are disabled by old age or disease.

A CERTAIN number of officers from every regiment are sent once a month into their respective districts, to inquire into the behaviour of the soldiers who are absent from the regiment, and to receive the reports of the magistrates on this subject. When any one of these soldiers is desirous of passing from his own to another canton, for the sake of getting employment, or on other business, he is obliged to apply to the burgo-master of his district, who grants his request if it appears reasonable, but not till he has procured two responsible persons to be sureties for his return within a limited time, or the moment he receives an order for that purpose.

It is the business of the officers who visit the men in the different cantons in this manner, to inspect, at the same time, the horses belonging to the army, to see that the farmers, with whom they are intrusted, keep them in a condition fit for service on any emergency.

THE commanders of the different corps, are obliged to take care that all this is duly executed, and that every thing is in readiness to take the field at a moment's warning ; for throughout the Prussian dominions every branch of the military department, even the minutest and seemingly most trifling article, is attended to with so much exactitude and unremitting attention, from the sovereign down to the common soldier, that in the short space of four or five days, a numerous army may be assembled and ready to take the field, without the different regiments that are to compose it knowing any thing of the matter, till they come to the place of rendezvous : thus, for instance, when an order is dispatched for this purpose into the different districts, the soldiers are instantly collected, so as to be enabled to join their respective regiments within eight-and-forty hours. The third day they are armed and equipped, and during this interval the horses belonging to the artillery, and to the different companies of each regiment, are collected at the head-quarters, so that on the fourth or fifth day the regiment marches to the place of encampment. Throughout the electorate of Brandenburg, the troops are so judiciously disposed in the several garrisons, that within the space of eight days they may be collected on the frontiers
of

of Saxony, and even have passed the Elbe, and penetrated into that country. It is the same in Silesia, and in the county of Glaats, so that a Prussian army may have invaded Austrian Silesia, and a part of Bohemia, before the court of Vienna is even apprized of their being in motion. Similar arrangements are adopted in Pomerania, Prussia, and indeed in every part of the King's dominions, by which means this Monarch is enabled at the beginning of a war, to execute some grand and unexpected *coup de main*, which at once astonishes and appals his enemies. The Prussian power will always continue formidable to its neighbours so long as they remain in their present state, unable to prevent or to check its first operations.

BESIDES the *Berlaubten*, which is the name given to the soldiers who are sent home to their families after the annual exercise, there are still about an hundred men of each company remaining in the several garrisons, eighty of whom are foreigners, and the rest natives of Prussia. The captains are allowed to exempt thirty or forty, and sometimes more of these men from duty, that they may subsist by their industry, as their pay in such cases goes into the pocket of the captain, who on his part is obliged to answer for such as are employed out of the garrison, and to procure other

other men in their stead in case they desert, which does not often happen, as this privilege is allowed only to the natives of Prussia, the foreigners being permitted to work only within the walls of a town. These workmen, who have the name of *Freywachter*, are obliged to appear at the roll-call, to sleep every night at their quarters, and to be under arms occasionally when the regiment is exercised. Like the *Berlaubten*, they are strictly disciplined in April and May, and during these two months they receive their pay themselves. In the great towns, such as Potsdam, Berlin, Breslaw, Koningsberg, &c. most of the *Freywachters* are employed at their trades, or in private families, in the capacities of coachmen, grooms, &c. From what has been said, the Reader will perceive that the greatest part of the Prussian army is in fact a militia; by which means the expence of the army establishment is greatly lessened, and the state gains much from the labour of so many men.

WHEN the soldiers of a company appear backward in applying for leave to work, the captain, who is unwilling to lose his usual perquisites, orders one of his subaltern officers to procure him as many working men as are wanting to make up the deficiency. The way in which the latter fulfils his commission, is by keeping the

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men from being idle, and punishing them for the least defect with great rigour. This method soon produces the desired effect, and the captain has more applications made to him than he can grant. Such is the tyranny permitted by the philosophical Frederick, and which answers no other purpose than to gratify the avarice of his captains, there being no service in Europe in which the command of a company is more lucrative than in the Prussian. On the other hand, the pay of the subaltern officers is extremely slender, but their zeal is kept alive by the hopes of one day rising to the head of a company. At Potsdam, the officers of every rank are the best off: those of the first battalion of guards dine every day at court; those of the second and third battalions, and of the grenadier guards, at a tavern, where a table is provided for them at the King's expence. The Prince Royal does the same for the officers of his regiment. As for the common soldiers, the greater number of them living the greater part of the year in their villages, in the manner we have related, are but a small expence to the state, though always ready for service. Those who remain in the garrisons, and are employed as *Freywachters*, are in some respects better off than the labourers and workmen, because they are lodged and cloathed by the King;

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King ; the rest of the regiment do the duty ; but every thing is so managed, that every soldier has three free days in the week ; and as he is taught only such manœuvres as are absolutely necessary, the manual exercise is short after he is once instructed in it, so that on field days it seldom lasts much more than half an hour. When the battalions march out of Potsdam to be exercised, especially when the King is present, they form as soon as they have reached the ground, after which they perform a few evolutions, and then file off. The march of the Prussian infantry is easy, steady, and not fatiguing ; it is regulated by music only in the manœuvres ; when the troops advance in columns, and in other evolutions, the soldier marches at his ease.

AN erroneous notion has got abroad, that the Prussian soldier is incessantly under the discipline of the cane. It is indeed true, that in Prussia, as well as in other parts of Germany, the soldier whenever he commits a fault is punished with strokes of a cane, or a broad sword (according to the different customs of different corps) ; but this punishment is never left to the caprice of a subaltern or serjeant, the number of strokes being limited, and proportioned to the fault committed. This correction suddenly and publicly inflicted, has

certainly a good effect. Chains and imprisonment, are, in Prussia, [employed only for criminals. But neither the cane nor the broad sword are used during the general exercises; they are employed only when a regiment is exercised by itself. In the general exercises if a soldier is defective, he is noted by some officer present, and sent back to practise with the recruits, where he is generally severely punished.

In the first battalion of guards, the soldier is punished by strokes of a broad sword, which are inflicted by a subaltern officer; in the rest of the guards, as well as in all the different corps of cavalry, the same correction is administered by a serjeant, in the presence of the officer who orders it. In all the other regiments of the army, the soldier is caned for neglect, but never without the order of an officer. When a serjeant of any corps is to be punished, it is with a broad sword, and by the hands of a subaltern officer; if the serjeant, as is not unfrequently the case, happens to be of noble extraction, the punishment consists of four strokes of the broad sword on his shoulders, inflicted by the commanding officer of the regiment. None above the rank of serjeant are punished in this manner, but are sent to the guard-house, and when their offence is

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considerable, the commanding officer gives notice of it to the King.

IN Prussia, the soldier is instructed in a very methodical manner. When he is first brought to the regiment, he is placed under the care of a serjeant, who teaches him how to walk, and to hold up his head, as well as the use of his firelock; and he is every day inspected by an officer, who is careful to see that he is properly instructed. For some days he is treated with gentleness, and allowance is made for his natural timidity and awkwardness; his duty is repeatedly explained to him, and he is soon taught to know that his body is to move only at the word of command, and that at the word *halt*, he is to be as immoveable as a statue; the leading principle of his Prussian Majesty's military system, seeming to be to reduce his troops to the nature of machines, to teach them to have no will of their own, and to be as deaf and as pitiless as their muskets.—When the young recruit has acquired the first principles with precision, he is exercised with the other recruits of the same company, twice a-day in summer, and once a-day in winter, by a lieutenant, the captain himself usually attending to assist, and to select such as are sufficiently instructed, that they may be incorporated
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with the company, and exercised with the rest of the battalion. When the soldier has passed through all these gradations of discipline, and it is known what he can do, he is told that now the least neglect will be severely punished; and, indeed, so truly is this observed, that in the exercise of the battalions, even an unavoidable accident, such as the dropping a bayonet, or the falling off of a hat, is sufficient to authorise the infliction of corporal punishment. I have even seen a soldier caned for sneezing. This may appear hard and tyrannical, but it is certain, that by adhering strictly to this rigorous discipline, accidents of this sort happen rarely. An old officer said to me one day at Potsdam, “*Nos soldats à présent ne toussent pas si souvent qu'autrefois.*” “Our soldiers do not cough so often now as they used to do.”

DURING the months of April and May, besides the general exercises, which are frequent, the different companies are every day exercised by their respective captains, in marching, firing, and in short in all the different branches of discipline. It is observed, however, that there is but little powder consumed in Prussia, the troops being seldom exercised in actual firing.

ON the first day of every month, the captain receives the pay of his company, and distributes it himself to his men every
five

five days. In the first battalion of guards, the soldier's pay for five days amounts to fifteen *gros*, or two shillings and ninepence sterling. The second and third battalions of guards, the artillery, miners, and all the grenadiers of the army receive twelve *gros*; the rest of the infantry only eight. It ought to be observed, however, that exclusive of their pay, all the troops are furnished with bread. The pay of the serjeant, in every corps, is a *gros*, or three halfpence sterling, more than the common soldiers.

EACH company, as I have already remarked, consists of two hundred men, and is commanded by a captain, two lieutenants, two second lieutenants, two ensigns, and eight serjeants. The first of these serjeants is usually of noble extraction, and is stiled *Fahnjunker*; he carries the colours of the company, and in his turn rises to the rank of a commissioned officer. The oldest *Fahnjunker* in the regiment is allowed to wear a silver hilted sword by way of distinction. All these *Fahnjunks* have the same cloaths and pay as the other serjeants, and when they are found guilty of neglect, are punished with strokes of the broad sword, by the hands of the commanding officer.

I HAVE had occasion to speak of the pay of the Prussian officers, and of the stoppage

* $\frac{15}{5} = 3.6$ (per boot) daily. $\frac{89}{5} = \frac{48}{5} = 1.52$ (1 1/2 per boot)

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out of it for a hat and uniform, that are provided for them once a-year; but those who are neat and economical enough to make these articles last two years, receive the value of them in money. This circumstance, however, does not often happen. The lieutenants usually receive a small gratuity every month from their captain, and are frequently invited to his table, in the cavalry at least, for in the infantry this hospitality is less common; upon guard days, however, it is a rule in every company for the captain to provide a dinner for all his officers.

BESIDES the officers I have mentioned, each regiment has its paymaster and chaplain, and each battalion its adjutant, quartermaster, and surgeon-major, who has a mate for each company. Every regiment, likewise, has a drum-major, a band of music, consisting of hautboys, clarinettes, French horns, and bassoons; an armourer, a tailor, and a shoemaker. There are more drummers in the Prussian army, in proportion to the number of troops, than in any other service in Europe.

THE Prussian cavalry has been brought to an astonishing degree of excellence since the peace. This is in a great measure owing to the King's indefatigable attention to their discipline, but no small share of praise on this head is due to that brave and
 expe-

experienced officer, the late General Seidlitz. This part of the army is divided into horse-guards, *gens d'armes*, carabiniers, cuirassiers, dragoons, hussars, and *bosniacs*.

THE first of these, the horse-guards, consist only of a single regiment of light horse, composed of three squadrons; this corps recruits from the dragoons. The *gens d'armes* consist of ten, the carabiniers and cuirassiers of five squadrons each. In all the different corps of cavalry the squadron consists of two hundred men, and each regiment, like the rest of the army, has its particular canton. The regiments of dragoons, like the cuirassiers, consist of five squadrons each, two only excepted that are of ten; those of hussars and *bosniacs* consist of ten, except two of the former that are of fifteen, and one of the latter (Loffou's *bosniacs*) that is of twenty squadrons. In the body guards, carabiniers, and cuirassiers, each squadron is divided into two companies of an hundred men each, the squadron being commanded by a field officer, and the separate companies by a captain, lieutenant, cornet, and four sergeants, one of whom, as in the infantry, is a *Fahnjunker* and standard bearer. In the dragoons, hussars, and *bosniacs*, there is no division of the squadrons into companies, but each squadron is commanded by a major, or other field officer, who has

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under him a captain, two lieutenants, two sub-lieutenants, a cornet, and seven serjeants. All the regiments of cavalry, like the infantry, have their paymasters, chaplains, surgeons, &c. they have likewise a serjeant-farrier, a boot-maker, trumpeter, &c.

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The pay of the common men in the cavalry is about two *gros*, or threepence sterling, a-day; the serjeants, as in the infantry, receive a *gros* more. There are sixty-four foreigners in each squadron, the rest is composed of natives of Prussia, the greater part of whom are dispersed at home in their respective districts, during ten months of the year, in the same manner as those belonging to the infantry. The emoluments of the officers, and particularly of the captains of cavalry, are somewhat greater than in the infantry. All the regiments of horse are new cloathed every year, but their cloaks, and the furniture of their horses are renewed only once in two years.

buff
The horse-guards, gens-d'armes, carabniers, and cuirassiers, all wear the same uniform, which is a light buff-coloured coat without pockets, a jacket edged with silk or lace, and buckskin breeches. The different regiments are distinguished by the different colour of their buttons, and facings of their coats. Their facings and
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their jackets are always of the same colour. Their boots are all square toed, and their hats differ from those of the infantry, in being of an enormous size. The King himself wears a hat of the same kind, and it certainly has a fine effect on horseback.

THE cuirassiers are furnished with an iron breast-plate that is musket proof, and defends the forepart of their bodies; the crown of their hats is likewise covered with steel. Their arms consist of a musketoon, pistols, and a long straight broad sword. In time of battle they leave their musketoons with the baggage, and only use their broad swords, not in the way of cutting, however, but merely thrusting, which no doubt does more execution; all the Prussian cavalry being accustomed to charge at full speed, and yet with such an inconceivable precision are all their evolutions performed, that they preserve their ranks and distances with the utmost exactness.

THE uniform of the dragoons is a light blue coat, white waistcoat, and buckskin breeches. The different regiments are distinguished by their buttons. Their hats are not quite so large as those of the cuirassiers. These troops, strictly speaking, can only be said to have the name of dragoons, as they never fight on foot, and are,

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in fact, a light horse. This is not the case, however, with the other regiments of cavalry, all of which are exercised both on foot and on horseback.

THE regiments of hussars wear uniforms of different colours, but all made in the Hungarian fashion. There is one regiment cloathed in a dark brown cloth, that is nearly of a black colour: this corps is distinguished by the name of *Black hussars*, and all the men have a death's head imprinted on the front of their caps: the standards of the regiment are likewise ornamented with this tremendous insignia. The bosniacs are dressed in the Polish taste.

ALL the different corps I have been speaking of, whether infantry, artillery, or cavalry, have their respective garrisons and fixed quarters, which they never quit, except in time of war, or during the grand manœuvres. The officers, both of the cavalry and infantry, remain constantly with their regiments, and are never allowed to be absent from their garrisons without the King's special leave, which is not often granted, and never for more than six weeks or two months. Officers of every rank, from the general to the serjeant, are all equally obliged to submit to this regulation. The effect of this confinement is, that the Prussian officers are in general of
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a graver, steadier disposition than those of most other countries in Europe. From a constant and invariable repetition of the same objects and functions, their ideas, as may naturally be supposed, are not very enlarged; nor does the King seem to wish that their thoughts should wander much from the immediate objects of their profession. Now and then, however, there are men of superior genius, who cultivate and display the talents they inherit from nature, in spite of these shackles; and whenever this happens they are sure of being promoted. A mere attention to duty in the Prussian service is not considered as a mark of any singular merit; and therefore seldom raises a man higher than to the command of a company, and this merely by length of service: but his Majesty, who knows how to appreciate talents and genius, never fails to foster and encourage them wherever he meets with them, whether in the subaltern or the private soldier. He is aware that a man may be an admirable proficient at drilling recruits, and yet make but a piteous figure at the head of an army. He is, therefore, careful to employ only men of genius in the higher ranks of his service, and to leave to the drudgery of discipline, those who fancy that the sole end of life, is to teach men
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to turn out their toes, to hold up their heads, and to handle their firelocks.

It is hardly possible for the Reader to form an adequate idea of the exactness and precision, with which all that I have described is executed in Prussia. In matters of military discipline, this government is certainly without its equal; it would be possible, however, to arrive at the same perfection in France, and other parts of Europe, if the military commanders in those countries were to lay aside their prejudices, and abandon customs that continue to be adopted notwithstanding their absurdity.

For these five-and-twenty years past, all the powers in Europe have been endeavouring to imitate the Prussian armies; but, unfortunately, the greater part of them have adopted the more trifling parts of the Prussian manœuvres, though, seemingly, without properly understanding even these, and have never once attained the main object. They have contented themselves with copying the Prussian uniform, teaching their soldiers the Prussian exercise, and with introducing a severe and troublesome discipline, without knowing the principles of true discipline, or the means of establishing it. If they had been at the pains of examining the military constitution of Prussia,

Prussia, they might have perceived that what is eligible in that country, may be ineffectual, or even prejudicial in others, and that the discipline which forms the basis of the military constitution of that kingdom, has been long established, and has undergone no material changes since the time of the Great Elector.

A PRINCE who models an army, ought carefully to consider the object for which it is intended, and the characteristics of the nation that is to compose it, for it is impossible to convert a Russian into an Italian, or a Prussian into a Frenchman.

If the Prussians in their tactics had imitated the Greeks and Romans our masters, and had adapted the military principles of those ancient warriors to their discipline, the precision of their evolutions, and the exactness of their manœuvres, what troops could have resisted them in regular battle, and in the open field?

THE Prussian troops are, without doubt, the finest, and the best modelled of any in the known world; their discipline, and the frequency of their exercises, will always give them the superiority, so long as the troops of other European powers continue to fight in the same order they do at present; but if a judicious military critic were to examine the motives that have determined

determined his Prussian Majesty to form his infantry in three ranks, and to prefer the use of fire to that of the bayonet, he would easily perceive that these motives are altogether political, and not founded on just military principles. He would observe, that this infantry, which is become so truly formidable, is composed of men of every nation, and of every religion in Europe, who are animated neither by a spirit of patriotism, nor by loyalty to their prince, but who are kept together merely by the constraint of discipline; that half these troops would be eager to embrace an opportunity of throwing off so burthensome a yoke; and that these, no doubt, are the reasons that have determined the great Frederick to adopt his present mode of fighting, although his superior understanding in military matters must have convinced him long ago, that brave and well disciplined troops ought always to charge by impulsion, and with bayonets fixed. We may presume that this Prince is sensible of the great risk he would run, were he to train his infantry to this method, though indisputably so excellent; for it is probable, that at the instant he should order them to charge with the bayonet, a great part of them would go over to the enemy. These considerations, therefore,

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fore, have induced him to adapt his discipline to that mode of fighting which his politics have obliged him to adopt. Other powers have been eager to imitate him, without seeming to be aware that by so doing they deprived themselves of all the advantages they might derive from a good military constitution, and from troops composed of brave citizens. Although the Prussian infantry fight upon a bad principle, yet the quickness and precision of their manœuvres seem to make up for the defects of their tactics.

THE favourite manœuvres of the King of Prussia, are the change of front, (of which the oblique order is always the basis) and the forming it into columns on the right and left, by means of which he directs his greatest strength to the particular point he has in view, and at the same time secures the weaker part of his army from the enemy's attack. This manœuvre of changing position by opening into columns, supplies the inconvenience of not being easily able to wheel about, which the Prussian battalions are subject to from their want of solidity. It is performed with such wonderful quickness, that the whole front of the line changes its situation almost imperceptibly, and has, of course, a fine effect on the parade; but in actual battle, the

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ranks might easily be thrown into confusion, if they were suddenly attacked by an enterprising enemy just at this critical moment.

THERE is one thing greatly in favour of his Prussian Majesty's operations, and that is the confidence he is enabled to place in the exact discipline of his troops, and the precision with which his orders are sure to be executed. This Prince is a perfect adept in the science of sham manœuvres; he himself, and a certain number of his aid-de-camps only are acquainted with the point to which the attack is to be directed. There is no country upon earth where officers of every rank know so well how to execute orders as in Prussia; and the reason of this is very simple: trained from their earliest years in the practice of manœuvres, and accustomed never to extend their ideas beyond the objects they are charged with, they content themselves with executing the orders they receive, without attempting to find out the reason why they are delivered.

THE Reader is not to suppose, however, that the manœuvres the King practises in public in the grand reviews, are the only ones he has recourse to; there are others which are kept as secret as possible, and at which strangers are never allowed to be present.

present. They are all founded, however, on the same principle, which is to conceal their real object with all possible care by sham movements, and after alarming the enemy throughout their front, to fall upon the part they mean to attack. The essential point is to re-inforce the troops that make the attack, in such a manner as to enable them at the first shock to throw the party attacked into confusion, and to dispose the rest of the army in such a manner, that it may be able to resist long enough for the attacking party to complete their victory. This is the grand principle of all the Prussian manœuvres.

HIS Prussian Majesty, like all the great captains both of ancient and modern times, is partial to the oblique order. It was by following this excellent method that Epaminondas completely defeated the Lacedæmonians at Leuctra, and afterwards at Mantinea, where this celebrated Theban general died of a wound he received in the fight. Cæsar owed his success at Pharsalia to the same method. In each of these instances, the combatants were Greeks and Romans contending with their countrymen, but the skill of the generals was unequal.

FOR these two centuries past the oblique order, as well as all the other orders that

are formed on the same principle, have been wholly neglected and laid aside, except by some few generals of transcendent genius, such as the great Gustavus Adolphus, Turenne, Montecuculi, and in our days Frederick II.

ALL our generals seem to have been seized with a rage (if I may be allowed the expression) for extended fronts; to equal or exceed the enemy in this respect, seems to be their *ne plus ultra*. A vulgar prejudice prevents their perceiving that a line of infantry can be extended only at the expence of its strength and solidity; and that the thinner it is, the less able it will be to resist the least shock, so that infantry formed on a different and better principle, or even the most indifferant cavalry will be able at once to throw it into confusion; and yet this is what would inevitably happen, even to the Prussian infantry, though the best disciplined in Europe, were they to be charged by impulsion, and with bayonets fixed, by a compact body of troops.

ALTHOUGH the military establishment in Prussia is supported with the greatest care, and nothing is neglected that can render it complete, yet the whole is managed with so much economy, that the annual expence attending it does not exceed

one

one million seven hundred thousand pounds sterling. For this sum, however, his Prussian Majesty has a numerous army, furnished with all the necessaries for war, and always ready to take the field at a moment's warning. If we compare this sum with the enormous expences with which a declaration of war is necessarily attended in France, we shall find that in the latter country they are at least two thirds more than they would be, were the arrangements adopted similar to those which have been so long established in Prussia. We know that the Prussian armies are at least equal in number to those of France; and yet, if we calculate the expences of each, we shall find that an army of an hundred thousand French costs the government more in a single campaign, than a Prussian army, of the same number, does in three.

THE END.

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